

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

The Applicant acknowledges, with thanks, the office action dated August 5, 2008. The Examiner's withdrawal of previous rejections made noted with appreciation. Claims 1, 3-8, 10-15, 17-22, and 24-28 are currently pending.

Claims , 3-8, 10-15,17-22 and 24-28 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent Publication No. 2004/0030809 to Lozano et al (*hereinafter*, "Lozano"), in view of U.S. Patent Publication No. 2003/0128386 to Kim.

The subject application teaches a system and method for a printer driver on a client machine to communicate with a network printer communicatively coupled to print server. A shared printer driver is loaded from an associated printer server to a client machine wherein the loaded printer driver maps print output to a default print queue. A computer network is searched for at least one network accessible printer corresponding to the default print queue, which network printer is accessible by the client machine via a data connection between the printer and an associated server and at least one network accessible printer is selected from such search. Identifier data associated with each selected network accessible printer is retrieved as well as a network address corresponding to the at least one selected network accessible printer. The network address corresponding identifier data, and a network path corresponding to the at least one selected network accessible printer is stored in an internal value table of the client machine. A port from the at least one selected network accessible printer is mapped to a port on the client machine corresponding to the default print queue in accordance with the value table, wherein the default print queue is able to pass through an actual port associated therewith for bidirectional data communication, inclusive of printer status information, with the at least one selected network accessible printer via the downloaded printer driver and the data connection.

The subject application teaches a solution for a particular problem associated with downloading printer drivers from a print server. That is, in a typical installation, the driver defaults to a particular queue, such as \\PrinterServerName\SharedDriveName. See, for example, the subject specification at page 1, lines 13-20. This failure results in a loss of bidirectional communication which prevents, for example, communication of printer status information back to a workstation. The driver would default to communicate print jobs to the queue, rather than to a device port. The newly cited Kim patent is directed to a mapping

operation from an initial port to an actual port once a printer is physically connected to a device. Kim does not contemplate a condition wherein a *downloaded* printer driver maps automatically to a queue, not to a port.

Prior to amendment, the subject claims did not affirmatively claim the interaction between the downloaded print driver, the default queue, and the mapping of a port to facilitate bidirectional data communication to allow for passing of status information back to a workstation.

Amendment to each of independent claims 1, 8, 15 and 22 has been made to include limitations relative to the discussions above. As amended, each claim now includes limitations that include the specific advantages relative to the unique problems associated with a downloaded printer driver, and a solution to a resultant loss of bidirectional data communication given the failure to map to a port. These limitations are far removed from the teachings of Kim.

The deficiencies in the teachings of were newly added, and are not remedied by the base reference to Lozano, which the Examiner noted to be deficient relative to teaching a downloading of print driver from a print server and a port mapping corresponding thereto.

In accordance with the afore-noted amendments and comments, it is submitted that all claims are patentably distinct over the art, and in condition for allowance thereover. An early allowance of all claims is respectfully requested.

If there are any fees necessitated by the foregoing communication, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge such fees to our Deposit Account No. 50-0902, referencing our Docket No. 66329/31252.

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Respectfully submitted,



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